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Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
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Re: Possible Site Recommendation for Yucca Mountain

Peine, August 30, 2001

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

As the company entrusted with construction and operation of repositories for all kinds of radioactive waste in the Federal Republic of Germany, DBE has been closely following the Department of Energy's scientific investigations of the Yucca Mountain Site to determine its suitability for a geologic repository for permanent disposal of high-level radioactive waste. As you probably know, among others DBE is responsible for developing the Gorleben Site Exploration mine, the worldwide only twin facility to Yucca Mountain.

We have read with great interest the recent publication of the results of those investigations in the Yucca Mountain Science and Engineering Report, the Total System Performance Assessment for the Site Recommendation as well as, more recently, the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation. This outstanding scientific and technical work by the United States advances the efforts of all nations using nuclear power to develop the means for the permanent disposal of the highly radioactive wastes from such use.

DBE looks now to the United States to continue to play a leading role in developing the science and the engineering for geologic repositories for permanent waste disposal. Steady progress by the United States towards the development of a repository provides important support to our own efforts, both in technical terms and as an example of continuity of commitment to this long and institutionally challenging task. We strongly encourage the Government of the United States to continue with the scientific investigations needed to support a decision about whether to develop a repository at the Yucca Mountain Site.

DBE looks very much forward to the continuing success of the Yucca Mountain project.

Sincerely yours

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